

Re: __2m CBC: Man charged in Friday night hit-and-run at Winnipeg protest against pandemic restrictions

From: "Blair, Bill - Personal" <[redacted]@parl.gc.ca>
To: "Astravas, Zita" <zita.astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>, "Williams, Caroline" <caroline.williams@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>
Date: Sat, 05 Feb 2022 21:03:33 +0000

I spoke to Farnworth today about their protests. s.37
s.37

s.37

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From: Blair, Bill - Personal <[redacted]@parl.gc.ca>
Sent: Saturday, February 5, 2022 4:00:26 PM
To: Astravas, Zita <Zita.Astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>; Williams, Caroline <Caroline.Williams@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>
Subject: Re: □2m CBC: Man charged in Friday night hit-and-run at Winnipeg protest against pandemic restrictions

There have also been arrests in toronto. Weapons, assault, public mischief

The Winnipeg incident is concerning as a counter protest.

I understand everyone's frustration and concern but I think we could get ourselves into serious trouble if we try to tell the police what to do. s.37
s.37

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From: Astravas, Zita <Zita.Astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>
Sent: Saturday, February 5, 2022 3:26:01 PM
To: Blair, Bill - Personal <[redacted]@parl.gc.ca>; Williams, Caroline <Caroline.Williams@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: □2m CBC: Man charged in Friday night hit-and-run at Winnipeg protest against pandemic restrictions

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "News / Nouvelles (PCO/BCP)" <News-Nouvelles@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Date: February 5, 2022 at 12:57:37 PM MST
To: "Astravas, Zita" <Zita.Astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>
Subject: □2m CBC: Man charged in Friday night hit-and-run at Winnipeg protest against pandemic restrictions

CBC: Man charged in Friday night hit-and-run at Winnipeg protest against pandemic restrictions

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CBC News · Posted: Feb 05, 2022

Winnipeg police have arrested and charged a man accused of hitting four men who were participating in a protest against pandemic restrictions with his SUV before speeding away on Friday night.

A man driving a white Jeep travelling westbound plowed through a group of protesters on the legislative grounds, hitting four men at about 9:50 p.m., Const. Rob Carver said at a news conference on Saturday.

Three sustained minor injuries that didn't require medical attention, but one was taken to hospital, treated and released, he said.

"It's pretty miraculous that nobody sustained any serious injuries," Carver said.

The accused drove away from the legislature at high speed, running red lights, and about 40 minutes later was arrested just west of the city in Headingley after a brief struggle, police said.

A man, 42, from Headingley is facing a number of charges, including four counts of assault with a weapon, dangerous operation of a vehicle causing bodily harm and failing to stop at the scene of an accident.

He is in police custody.

Carver said he couldn't speak to the man's motivations for allegedly striking the protesters, but said the driver spoke to officers as he was being arrested.

"Some comments were made by the accused that tends to suggest this was not specifically about the [vaccine] mandates," Carver said. "He wasn't for or against any of the general views that are floating around this country."

A video circulating on social media shows a person driving a white SUV in the area of the protest and then into the crowd of protesters.

A person is seen being struck and then standing up afterwards.

The public information officer told media that police across the country view protests such as these as "potentially volatile."

"There are strong opinions being expressed and there are a broad range. There's polarization here. Anytime you have a situation like that, there's a potential for tempers to flare and possibly some violence," Carver said.

There have been no other incidents of violence reported to police, he said.

Rally continuing Saturday

Meanwhile, the protest convoy continued Saturday calling for an end to pandemic restrictions and federal vaccine mandates for truckers.

Police say traffic on Broadway is now down to one lane in either direction, and people are asked to avoid driving in the area.

Those who must drive on Broadway should expect delays, police said in a tweet.

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